

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

PAUL I. PEREZ UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

400 North Tampa Street Suite 3200 Tampa, Florida 33602 813/274-6000 813/274-6300 (Fax) 300 North Hogan Street Suite 700 Jacksonville, Florida 32201 904/301-6300 904/301-6310 (Fax) 80 North Hughey Avenue, Room 201 Orlando, Florida 32801 407/648-7500 407/648-7643 (Fax) 2110 First Street, Suite 3-137 Fort Myers, Florida 33901 239/461-2200 239/461-2219 (Fax)

Contact: Steve Cole ♦ Public Affairs Specialist ♦ 813/274-6352

For Immediate Release

November 20, 2003

NINE VOLUSIA COUNTY RESIDENTS CHARGED IN FEDERAL DRUG CONSPIRACY

United States Attorney Paul I. Perez today announced that the following individuals were charged in a criminal complaint with conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine and use of communication devices to facilitate the distribution of methamphetamine:

- Rodney William Hipp, a/k/a Timathy Robert Brian, 37, Daytona Beach, Florida;
- Jeffrey Thomas Randolph, 41, Daytona Beach, Florida;
- Connie Renee Brewington, 39, Daytona Beach, Florida;
- Bonnie Ann Newkam, a/k/a Bonnie Cackovic, 37, Daytona Beach, Florida;
- Kelli Ann Brian, 34, Daytona Beach, Florida;
- Joseph CD Kiley, 41, Daytona Beach, Florida;
- John Michael Turner, a/k/a Slammer, 53, New Symrna Beach, Florida;

- Michael Noland, 52, Ormond Beach, Florida;
- Richmond E. Dawson, Jr., 42, Deland, Florida;

Each defendant faces a minimum mandatory 10 years imprisonment up to life imprisonment and a fine of up to \$4 million.

According to the Complaint, the arrests and charges are the result of a long term investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Volusia County Sheriff's Office, the Ormond Beach Police Department, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement into narcotics trafficking occurring in the Daytona Beach area. The Complaint alleges that Hipp was the head of an organization that distributed multiple ounces of methamphetamine throughout the Volusia County area from mid-1998 until November, 2003. It is alleged that the Hipp organization was both manufacturing and distributing the methamphetamine in conjunction with sources in California and Kentucky. It is alleged that the other named defendants played various roles in the organization to assist the distribution of the drugs.

A Complaint is merely an allegation that there is probable cause to believe that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws. Every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

U.S. Attorney Paul I. Perez said, "These arrests show the continued commitment of the United States to assist local law enforcement in their efforts to stem the flow of drugs into our neighborhoods and make the streets safer for children."

The case is being investigated by the Orlando Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Volusia County Sheriff's Office, the Ormond Beach Police Department, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney Matthew H. Perry is prosecuting the case.